Dewas, Dhar, Hoshangabad, Indore, Khandwa, Khargaon, Narsingpur, Rajgarh, Sehore, Seoni, Shajapur, Ujjain, Balaghat, Shandol and Sidhi. Rainfall was not scanty in any district.

(d) Government of Madhya Pradesh has informed that the impact of deficient rainfall will be known only after completion of crop cutting experiments on Kharif crops. which are in progress. However, State Government have already instructed district authorities for conservation of flowing water by constructing small earthen bunds. State Government has also prepared Action Plan to meet the drinking water situation.

Central Assistance to the State Government of Bihar

1830. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the nature and the quantum of Central assistance given to the State Government of Bihar following its declaration declaring the entire State as Scarcity hit;

(b) whether any Central team has visited the State to assess the situation; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN) :

(a) to (c) On receipt of a memorandum from Government of Bihar seeking Central assistance of Rs. 1200.12 crore for the relief measures in the areas affected by drought, a Central team visited the affected areas to assess the situation. Based on the report of the Central Team and recommendations of the Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG), 4th quarterly instalment of Central share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) for the year 1992-93 and two quarterly instalments for the year 1993-94, totalling to Rs. 19.6875 crore have been released, in advance, to the Government of Bihar.

Supply of Reconstituted Milk

1831. SHRI JAGANNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that butter oil and skimmed milk is mixed for the preparation of Toned Milk by the D.M.S.;

(b) if so, the reasons for this mixing;

(c) whether it is a fact that it was due to non-availability of fresh milk in sufficient quantity;

(d) if yes, the authority permitting this mixing;

(e) whether it is a fact that by resorting to this process DMS has been losing revenue to the tune of nearly five lakh rupees a day for the last three months; and

(f) what are the effects of this type of Toned Milk on the health of the consumers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) to (d) Delhi Milk Scheme (DMS) supplies Toned Milk by standardising FAT and SNF received from mixed milk and cow milk. The additional quantities of FAT and SNF (Solids Not Fat) are made up from white butter/butter oil and S.M.P./Liquid Skimmed Milk. With a view to consume the stocks of FAT available with DMS, they had the option either to use Skimmed Milk Powder or Liquid Skimmed Milk. As the required quantity of Skimmed Milk Powder (SMP) was not available at reasonable price, DMS had to resort to procure Skimmed Milk temporarily as a substitute of S.M.P. with the approval of the competent authority.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) The re-constituted milk prepared by using either Skimmed Milk Powder or Liquid Skimmed Milk conforms to the requirement of Prevention of Food Adulteration Act.

Quantity of Rice supplied to Kerala under PDS

@1832. SHRI M. A. BABY :

SHRI E. BALANANDAN :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of rice sought by Kerala Government for distribution through PDS; and

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@Previously Unstarred Question 537 transferred from 26-11-92.